197
174 Languages of the Cameroons/, "
Petermanns geographische Mitteilungen,
1932, p. 184, note 4.

On the other hand, on the basis of a personal communication from Dr. Aujoulat, who worked among the Mangisa for several years, Dr. Olivier makes the following statement: "However, on the basis of differences (from the Pahouin) in language and physical type, Aujoulat has hypothesized a different, more northern origin and contact with tribes whom he calls Sudano-Bantu, namely the Yambasa and the Sanaga (2)." On the basis of the classifications that we our-

2. Bulletin de la Société d'Etudes Camerounaises, No. 15-16, p. 55.

selves propose in this work, would not a Beti origin be possible? This great question is raised once again here.

● 141 Physical Anthropology. The /anthropometric/ indexes have been calculated by the Drs. Olivier and Aujoulat as follows:

	OLIVIER	AUJOULAT	
	Men	Men	Women
Cephalic	76.0	76.7	76.3
Facial	81.4	77.7	77.9
Nasal	88.7	86.0	90.5
Cormique	50.4	50.9	50.6
Envergure/T	104.8	105.0	103.8

143 Their blood-group ratios show a greater proportion of AB type than is present among other Pahouin, and a predominance of type A over type B. The percentages are as follows:

O: 52 percent; A: 21.9 percent; B: 10.9 percent; AB: 15.2 percent; —index $\frac{A+AB}{B+AB}$: 1.44.

ETON

131 Location: 11°10 to 11°45 long.
3°45 to 4°30 north lat.

131 Physical Geography. Area: 2, 520 square km.

133 The country of the Eton is made up of hills and plateaus; it drifts
137 gently down from the heights of the country of the Ewondo to the valley of the Sanaga River. The border of the great southern forest crosses the territory from south to north; the westerly two-thirds of the area are covered with forest, and the last third is prairie. The Sanaga borders the country only in the northwest and northeast, for the greater part of the loop [misprint in French text: bouche for boucle. See map.] of the river is occupied by the Mangisa. /69/

161 Human Geography. Population: 111, 738 inhabitants.
Density: 44. 3 persons per square km.

173 It is impossible to say whether the Eton should be counted among the Beti populations who were dislodged and crossed the Sanaga or whether they were among the first Pahouin to cross the Sanaga at the time of the invasion. Their traditions do not go back very far; they only tell of their departure from the fork of the M'Bam and the Sanaga. /Map 7/ The Eton say that after crossing the river in the direction of the present-day village of Nkolbogo, they fell upon the Mangisa who had already arrived, and then spread themselves throughout the territory which they occupy to this day.

361 The Eton are settled in large villates, whose hamlets line the length
487 of their many trails. At present their country is traversed by several roads on which heavy trucks can travel so that their products can reach Yaoundé and the railroad.

197 Language. With reference to this subject it seems best to refer the reader to the paragraph on linguistics in the chapter on the Mangisa, since the same question is raised for the two peoples. /70/

142 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The Eton are above average in height, mesocephalic, and platyrrhin.

143 Their blood-group ratio is typically Negro, with a relatively high proportion of the AB type:

O: 55. 7 percent; A: 13. 8 percent; B: 17. 5 percent; AB: 12. 9 percent; —index $\left[\frac{A+AB}{B+AB}\right]$: 0. 878.

141 Their height is /for the/ average: men 167. 8 cm.; women 159. 9 cm.

141

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	76.2	76.4
Facial	85.1	84.2
Nasal	83.8	81.6
Cormique	50.8	51.0
Envergure/T	104.4	102.3

163 The birth rate is gradually dropping.

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113

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On the subject of the settlements, subsistence, and customs of the Eton, only unpublished sources are available.

We also want to mention an important demographic report by Dr. Aujoulat of the "Ad lucem" Foundation at Efok (Subdivision of Saa). The work was carried out in 1944 (Archives du Service de Santé).

Finally, we must not neglect to mention that at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris there is a film of great ethnographic and artistic

141 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The Ewondo are people
142 of above average height (men 168.4 cm; women 158.6 cm.), fairly slender, mesocephalic, barely platyrrhinian.

143 Their blood-group ratio is that of typical Negroes:
O: 55.5 percent; A: 14.1 percent; B: 17.4 percent; AB: 11.5 percent; —index $\frac{A+AB}{A+AB}$: .885.

141

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	77.0	77.6
Facial	85.7	85.6
Nasal	82.3	78.2
Cormique	50.5	50.4
Envergure/T	105.3	104.0 /73/

/Map 9, Ewondo Peoples, facing p. 72./

161 The population balance is fair. the differential index (ratio of births to deaths) is + 0.2 percent.

163 A slight increase in the birth rate has been noted; at the same time infant mortality is very low: 3 percent.

The fertility rate is 3.06 pregnancies per woman.

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174 At that time they were already situated along one of the principal commercial routes of the south, used to ship from the east many sought-after products, especially ivory.

361 The Bane are settled in large villages and hamlets. The population in these settlements is no more homogenous /75/ than the Ewondo's. The major intermixtures are shown on our map.

491 497 The road from Yaoundé to Ebolowa now crosses the Bane country from north to south. Another road, south of the Nyong, is the terminal point of the trade routes coming from the southeast. Because of these roads and the connection with the railroads at M'Balmayo, all the wealth of this country of great food crops, rich farmlands (cacao and coffee), and forests is easily brought to market.

000 Language. The subject is discussed in the paragraph on the linguistics of the Ewondo.

941 142 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The Bane are of above-average height, fairly slender, mesocephalic, and only slightly platyrrhinian.

143 Their blood-type ratios are as follows:
O: 49 percent; A: 18 percent; B: 14 percent; AB: 19 percent—index $\left[\frac{A+AB}{B+AB}\right]$: 1.121.

141

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	77.3	77.0
Facial	81.8	80.8
Nasal	85.2	86.0
Cormique	50.9	51.8
Envergure/T	104.9	103.9

161 163 The population balance is stable: the ratio of births to deaths is + 0.2. The fertility rate is 4.7 pregnancies per woman. See the studies in physical anthropology in Bulletin de la Société d'Etudes Camerounaises, Nos. 10, 12, 15-16.

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Fong
Fang

173 of the Nyong. According to their traditions they come from an area north of the Sanaga, as do the other groups which preceded them.
[161] They settled in the forest, where there are at present 12, 783 of them (a density of 6.9 persons per square km.).

231 262 The Fong are an agricultural people. They seem to have little inclination to hunt so that their diet consists chiefly of vegetables, although they have a fairly large number of domesticated animals. /Map 11/

141 Physical Anthropology and Demography. Average height: men 169.7 cm.; women 162 cm.

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	80.8	81.5
Nasal	95.21	84.01

161 163 The population balance is slightly positive, the ratio of birth to deaths being + 0.77. The rate of sterility is high, 25.6 percent, but is fortunately compensated for by the fertility rate, 5.3 pregnancies per woman.

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THE FANG, THE MVAE, THE NTUMU

131 Location: $10^{\circ}45$ to $12^{\circ}45$ long.
and a few islands between 10° and $10^{\circ}30$ long.

113 See:

Tessmann, Gunter. Die Pangwe /The Fang/. Völkerkundliche Monographie eines westafrikanischen Negerstammes. Ergebnisse der Lübecker Pangwe-Expedition 1907-1909 und früherer Forschungen 1904-1907 /Anthropological Monograph on a West African Negro Tribe, Results of the Lübeck Fang Expedition 1907-1909 and Earlier Research in 1904-1907/ (Berlin: Wasmuth, 1913), pp. 30-31, (short Ntum and Fang vocabularies), and pp. 45-48.

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141 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The Fang are barely above average in height, platyrrhinian, and mesocephalic.

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	77.0	76.6
Facial	83.2	87.0
Nasal	91.3	88.7
Cormique	51.2	50.9
Envergure/T	105.3	103.4

161 Their population balance is hardly favorable. The ratio of births over deaths is + .03 percent.

163 The population is therefore stationary: the rate of sterility is 7 percent; the fertility rate is 3.8 pregnancies per woman.

141 The Mvae are tall and mesocephalic.

Indexes	Men	(measurements of women were not made)
Cephalic	78.8	
Nasal	104.6	
Cormique	50.4	
Envergure/T	103.9	

161 There is a slight rise in population: ratio of births over deaths is + .69 percent.

163 The sterility rate is 15.2 percent; the fertility rate, 4.3 pregnancies per woman.

141 The Ntumu are above average in height, mesocephalic, and platyrrhinian.

Indexes	Men	(measurements of women were not made)
Cephalic	77.4	
Nasal	102.3	
Cormique	50.6	
Envergure/T	101.6	

161 The population balance remains favorable in spite of an extremely
165 high rate of infant mortality, reaching 58.91 percent of children born alive. The ratio of births over deaths is + 1.53 percent.

163 The sterility rate is 12 percent; the fertility rate, 4.6 pregnancies per woman.

113 See G. Olivier, with the collaboration of Drs. Aujoulat, Chabeuf, Chagnoux, André Dayid, and Grenier, "Documents anthropometriques pour servir a l'étude des principales populations du Sud-Cameroun /Anthropometric Documents for a study of the Major Peoples of the South Cameroons/," Bulletin de la Société d'Etudes Camerounaises, No. 15-16 (Sept-Dec. 1946), pp. 48-49 and 62.

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361 The settlements of these peoples vary in appearance. The villages and hamlets of the Yengono, the Yembama, and the Yelinda are located in relatively open country and they stretch out along numerous trails. The Bulu in the south, situated in a land of parallel valleys through which flow the tributaries of the Nyong and by thick forest, can only build their villages along the valleys. This whole area, es-
241 pecially in the Nyong Basin, is very fertile. The natives have fine fields of food crops and many palm trees. Many prosperous enterprises, lumber yards, and fine groves of cacao trees can also be found. /81/[Map 13]

489 All the products are transported to the railroad at M'Balmayo along a large network of roads and the navigable parts of the Nyong.

181 The Bulu are intelligent and hard working, and are capable of becoming excellent craftsmen.

197 Language. We have seen that Father Nekes and G. Tessmann see a very close relationship between the language of the Bulu and that of the Mvele. The Bulu language includes a number of dialects with only slight variants, and falls between the speech of the Ewondo and that of the Gabon Pahouin, which are almost identical.

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Physical Anthropology and Demography

● 141 Bulu: average height, men 165.4 cm.; women 157.6 cm.

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	77.8	79.2

Facial	86.5	85.1
Nasal	85.7	82.0
Cormique	51.2	52.2
Envergure/T	103.7	102.9

161 The population is barely increasing: the ratio of births over deaths is + 0.30 percent.

163 The sterility rate is 7 percent; the fertility rate is 4.12 pregnancies per woman.

184 Yengono. Sleeping sickness has been rampant in this area in the past but now seems to have been conquered.

143 Their blood group ratios are as follows:
O: 50.1 percent; A: 15.7 percent; B: 29.5 percent; AB: 4.7 percent; —index $\left[\frac{A+AB}{B+AB}\right]$: 0.59.

161 The population balance is slightly favorable; the excess of births over deaths is .63 percent.

163 Sterility rate 9 percent; fertility rate, 3.47 pregnancies per woman.

161 Yelinda. The population balance is not being maintained; the index of births over deaths is -0.1 percent.

163 Sterility rate 18 percent; fertility rate, 3.30 pregnancies per woman.

164 Yembama. Sleeping sickness has been very prevalent among these people, but it is continually decreasing.

161 The population balance is favorable: the excess of births over death is .72 percent.

163 The sterility rate is 16 percent; the fertility rate, 3.97 pregnancies per woman. /82/

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197 latter. Father Nekes, however, is of a different opinion; he stresses a very great resemblance to the Bulu language of the Ebolowa district. In his opinion the Mvele language represents a more archaic form than those of the Ewondo or the Bane.

See:

Tessmann, Günter. Die Pangwe /The Fangs/. Völkerkundliche Monographie eines westafrikanischen Negerstammes. Ergebnisse der Lübecker Pangwe-Expedition 1907-1909 und früherer Forschungen 1904-1907 /Anthropological Monograph on a West African Negro Tribe, Results of the Lübeck Fang Expedition 1907-1909 and Earlier Research in 1904-1907/ (Berlin: Wasmuth, 1913), pp. 30-31 (a short vocabulary).

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Nekes. Koloniale Rundschau, 1912, pp. 469-70. /84/

●141 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The Mvele are slender, slightly platyrrhinian; they have the features of the Sudan in attenuated form.

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	77.5	78.4
Facial	81.3	82.1
Nasal	90.0	85.5
Cormique	51.5	52.1
Envergure/T	104.1	103.1

143 Their blood group ratios are typically Negro, although the proportion of group AB is slightly greater than in the classical formula. O: 51 percent; A: 14.3 percent; B: 16.3 percent; AB: 18.4 percent;—index $\frac{A+AB}{B+AB}$: 0.942.

161 The population balance is not being maintained: the index of births to deaths is -0.21 percent.

See:

131 Olivier, G. "Etude anthropologique comparée des principales tribus de la region de Yaoundé /A Comparative Study in the Physical Anthropology of the Principal Tribes of the Yaoundé Region/,"

114 from the Masai territory during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? The presence of Ba-yoka in the midst of the tribe is, of course, insufficient evidence. In order to give a satisfactory answer to this question we would have to be able to make a comparison between the languages."

245 The country of the Bamvele and the Bobili is enriched by the presence of beautiful palm trees which are the sole source of prosperity for these peoples.

491 The country is serviced in the south by the eastern highway and also by a central road which runs from the Yekaba frontier to the north of their district.

197 Language. Although the traditions of the Yekaba and the Bamvele state that the ancestors of both peoples fled from among the Yalongo north of the Sanaga, the linguistic map of G. Tessmann clearly distinguishes between the two.

As we have seen, he says that the Yekaba speak a Pahouin tongue. The Bamvele (Bele in the German terminology) are said to have brought from their land of origin a language which is different from, although related to, the Pahouin languages, but mixed with that of the Beti. This observation is interesting and plausible. The Yekaba of the same origin as the Bamvele may thus have borrowed their language.

See Günter Tessmann, "Die Völker und Sprachen Kameruns /People and Languages of the Cameroons/," Petermanns geographische Mitteilungen (Gotha, 1932), pp. 117 and 184.

●141 Physical Anthropology. The people are almost all tall and strong, with flat noses and a marked prognathism. The trunk of the body is proportionately long.

Average height: men 169.7 cm.; women 158.9 cm.

Indexes	Men	Women
Cephalic	79.3	78.7
Facial	84.7	84.9
Nasal	87.0	81.8
Cormique	51.5	52.5
Envergure/T	104.5	104.2

197 Language. The linguistic map of G. Tessmann shows without comment, the Yebekolo, under the category of "Mvele."

141 Physical Anthropology and Demography. The average height of the Yebekolo is 165.5; the average cephalic index is 78.8.

143 Their blood-group ratios are as follows:
O: 69.3 percent; A: 13.1 percent; B: 12.1 percent; AB: 5.35 percent;—index $\frac{A+AB}{A+AB}$: 1.197.

165 The extremely high rate of infant mortality (58.64 percent) is due
164 to malaria1. The disease is fostered by the marshiness of the region, which is likely to remain a source of sleeping sickness as well.

161 The population balance is stationary; the ratio of births to deaths is + 0.09 percent.

163 The sterility rate is 5 percent; the fertility rate is 3.98 pregnancies per woman.

See:

113 Olivier, G., with the collaboration of Drs. Aujoulat, Chabeuf, Chagnoux, André David, and Greiner, "Documents anthropometriques pour servir a l'étude des principales populations du Sud-Cameroun, /Anthropometric Documents for a Study of the Major Peoples of the South Cameroons/," Bulletin de la Société d'Etudes Camerounaises, No. 15-16 (Sept.-Dec. 1946), p. 65.

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Moisel map, G3, Dume

6:Alexandre and Binet--107 G-5 (1946-1954) 1958 FH9 Fang FH9

423 continues to have rights over her old garden plots and may gather the
522 harvest from them. Among the Bané and the Boulou the position of divorced women is not the same, but the tendency is so, for when fallow land is cleared, every woman goes back to the plots she used to work four or five years before, and sons may demand plots that have been cultivated by their mothers.

Cacao plantations raise other problems. A man concerned for his children's future may turn over a plantation to a wife or encourage her to make one for their son. In other cases childless women start
[523] plantations as a means of providing for old age. Women with children do not have to fear, for their children will look after them. Finally, there is an even more important /83/ change appearing: a matrimonial system of community of property is developing. When a woman has collaborated with her husband to set up a plantation, she has the right upon his death to keep the usufruct. Even if her son inherits the plantation and sells the produce, it is she who collects the proceeds. This is an important development, because it is evidence of a kind of equality between spouses who are keen and efficient in harvesting the produce of the same piece of land. It furthermore shows that the
[524] household is a legal reality vis-à-vis the two individuals, on the one hand, the patriarchal family, on the other. (J. B.)

Chapter 6

Principal Elements of Culture

1. Physical and Mental Characteristics

a. Anthropological Data

● 141 The first travelers describe the Fang as very tall, well built, and with a formidable appearance. This opinion certainly contained a good deal of subjective evaluation, because the figures given, for instance by I. Dugast, some of which are cited below, indicate simply an above-average height:

● 141

Tribe	Height		Cephalic Index		Trunk Index /Indice cormique/	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Mangisa	above average		76.7	76.3	?	?
Eton	167.8	157.9	76.2	76.4	60.8	51.0
Ewôndo	168.4	158.6	77.0	77.6	50.5	50.4
Boulou	165.4	157.6	77.8	79.2	51.2	52.2
Fang	above average		77.0	76.6	51.2	50.9

[143]

Tribe	Blood Group (in %)					Facial Index		Width/Height /Envergure s/taille/	
	O	A	B	AB	Index	Male	Female	Male	Female
Mangisa	52	21.9	10.9	15.2	1.44	?	?	?	?
Eton	55.7	13.8	17.5	12.9	0.878	85.1	84.2	104.4	102.5
Ewôndo	55.5	14.1	17.4	11.5	0.885	85.7	85.6	105.3	104.0
Boulou	?	?	?	?	?	86.5	85.1	103.7	102.9
Fang	?	?	?	?	?	83.2	87.0	105.3	103.4

It is inevitable, in any case, that a population of this numerical size should present fairly obvious extreme variations, but my own observation, also subjective, thrown into relief a larger proportion of short and very short persons than of tall and very tall: interbreeding with Pygmies (the Bekoé ayoĩ especially) would explain this to a great extent. The Beti in the north, who have had much less contact with Pygmies, seem taller and slenderer.

[144]

142 [141] The group as a whole may be considered mesocephalic with a /85/ slight tendency to dolichocephaly (1), with not very obvious Negroid facial traits, rather light chocolate brown skin, although some groups have a reddish tinge to the skin and green eyes (the Ndôĩ ayoĩ of Sangmélima). Pectoral hair is common. There is fairly common albinism, some polydactylism (the subjects are supposedly sorcerers).

1. Midwives, bebialé binga, still continue the practice of shaping newborn skulls by lengthening. On the other hand, the custom of binding babies' heads with a bark band is dying out.

[304 856]

[143 224]

8: Bennett D-5 (ca. 1898) 1899 FH9 Fang FH9

The face is oval in form.[1] The average nose is of the negroid type (short, broad, nearly straight), Fig. 7, Topinard; or the Australoid or Papuan (broad, with the lower part forming a flattened and depressed hook), Fig. 8, Topinard's scale. The skull is thick and strong. Very often the brows are depressed deeply, the cheek bones are prominent, and at the angle of the inferior maxillary bone there is an inclination to bulging outward. The alæ nasi are broad and thick, and the nasal bridge often much depressed giving the typical, flat, turned up nose of the negro. Yet I have observed among the Fang some handsome aquiline noses, and quite frequently the Australoid or Papuan type. I have frequently noticed that the possessors of the aquiline, or Australoid type of nose, showed a higher degree of intelligence and a more genuine desire to learn "the white man's ways." 142

The ears are large and well developed, inclined to spread outward and having broad thick lobes. The teeth are good and symmetrical; Fang men and women file the upper and lower incisors to a fine point and give as their reason for so doing, that it is *mbung* (beautiful). The head of an average Fang male sits well on the shoulders, the neck is strong and muscular, the "Adam's apple" is not highly developed. Very little attention is given to the cultivation of hair on the upper lip. [304] [826]

The breasts of Fang women are very pendulous after bearing children; and in some cases the breasts in males are very highly developed (photo on screen).

The muscles of the arms, back, buttocks and thighs are often splendidly developed, far more so than in the Mpôngwe, Mabeya and many other West African tribes. The Mpôngwes are rapidly degenerating. In the male Fang the gluteal muscles are not highly developed. The gluteal muscles in the female are often developed to a very high degree, measuring round from 36½ inches to 39½ inches.

Fifteen Fang males were measured and averaged as follows: [141]

Height 5 feet 9 inches.
Chin to pubes 27¼ inches.
Pubes to inner malleolus 32½ inches.
Inner malleolus to tip of great toe 8½ inches.
Shoulder to wrist 24½ inches.
Wrist to point of index finger 8½ inches.

In males the thumb is long and broad in the terminal phalanx; the nails of the hand are broad and flat. I have often seen a man use his great toe to pick up an object off the ground, and flexing the leg bring the object to his hand. When journeying through the bush with a caravan it is very interesting to notice how the native uses the great toe to aid him in climbing a steep hill. The sexual apparatus is very highly developed, especially in the males. The women are the [481]

[1] It has not been possible for me to devote the time needed for a detailed study of Fang crania. The few Bulu and Fang skulls I have had opportunity for examining presented very little, if any, different characteristics. The skulls I examined were decidedly prognathous, but not large.